

In re Patent Application of:
PEZZINI
Serial No. 10/717,177
Filing Date: November 19, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 10, 13-16 and 19-30 remain in this application. Claims 11, 12, 17 and 18 are cancelled. Claims 10, 14, 20 and 25 are amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and prior art. At the outset, independent claims 10 and 14 have been amended to recite the respective subject matter of claims 11 and 12 and 17 and 18, which were considered allowable subject matter in the Final Rejection.

Independent claims 20 and 25 have been amended to add those recitations also added into now allowable claims 10 and 14, placing those independent claims 20 and 25 in condition for allowance. Not only does claim 20 recite the control circuit, pending interrupts register, priority registers, counters, priority comparing circuit and logic processing circuit, but also the allowable subject matter regarding the incrementing based upon increment signals having different periods with each period corresponding to a particular interrupt that is associated with the corresponding counter and wherein the increment signal of one of the plurality of counters has a period shorter than the ratio between a maximum latency of one of the interrupts and a difference between maximum and minimum priority values.

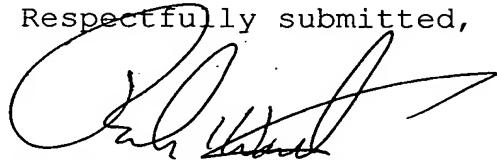
As noted in the Final Rejection, this subject matter is not disclosed or suggested either singularly or in combination by the cited prior art references to Khan et al., Oman et al., Manber et al., Norman et al., or Farmer et al. This similar subject matter has been added to independent Claim 25.

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Applicant contends that the present case is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due.

If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing this case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **MAIL STOP AF, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**, on this 24th day of May, 2006.

